

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 6-24, and 26-46 were pending. In the Final Office Action mailed on July 27, 2005, claims 2-3, 6-7, 9-24, 26-30, 35, and 39-45 were rejected. Claims 4, 8, 31-34, 36-38, and 46 were objected to. Claims have been herein amended. Claims have been herein cancelled. Claims 2-4, 6-24, and 26-46 are pending upon entry of this amendment.

Applicants thank Examiner for examination and requests reconsideration of all pending claims in view of the remarks below.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

In paragraphs 1-10, Examiner rejected claims 2-3, 6-7, 9-24, 26-30, 35, and 39-45 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jang (U.S. Patent No. 5,274,698) in view of at least one of Richardson (U.S. Patent No. 5,355,403), Hou (U.S. Patent No. 5,325,421), Morganstein (U.S. Patent No. 5,109,405), Howe (U.S. Patent No. 5,471,519), and Matchett (U.S. Patent No. 5,229,764).

Applicants submit that the rejections on claims 7, 29, 39-40, 42 and 44 are moot because these claims have been cancelled. Additionally, Applicants submit that rejections on claims 2-3, 6, 9-24, 26-28, 30, 35, 41, 43 and 45 have been traversed because these claims have been amended to be dependent upon allowable claims as indicated below. Therefore, claims 2-3, 6, 9-24, 26-28, 30, 35, and 41, 43 and 45 are in condition for allowance. For the record, Applicants submit that the cited references, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or disclose the elements of these claims as previously presented.

Objections

In paragraph 11, Examiner objected to claims 4, 8, 31-34, 36-38 and 46 as being dependent upon rejected base claim. However, Examiner also indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of associated base claims and any intervening claims. On a telephone call between Examiner and Applicants' Attorney that took place on October 25, 2005, Examiner confirmed that amendments would be entered in order to make the requested change.

In response, Applicants have amended: claim 4 to include the limitations of claim 2; claim 8 to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3; each of claims 31-33 to include the limitations of claims 3 and 29; claim 36 to include the limitations of claim 35; and claim 46 to include the limitations of claims 40-42, 44 and 46. Each of these claims includes the limitations of associated base claims and any intervening claims. No new search is necessary. Further amendments have been made to dependent claims so that they each rely upon a pending base claim. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Therefore, Applicants submit that the objections have been obviated and that claims 4, 8, 31-34, 36-38 and 46 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are allowable over the cited art of record and request that the Examiner allow this case. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned in order to advance the prosecution of this application.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,
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